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GHOST RIDER

2099



DIRECT EDITION



00211



59606 01157

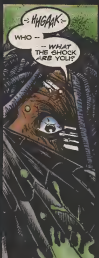


DETONATION BOULEVARD

LEN KAMINSKI WORDS CHRIS BACHALO BREAK-DOWNS MARK BUCKINGHAM FINISHES

RICHARD STARKINGS W/JOHN GAUSHELL LETTERS CHRISTIE SCHEELA COLORS EVAN SKOLNICK EDITOR BOBBIE CHASE GROUP EDITOR TOM DeFALCO CHIEF

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TOOK
MY BUSINESS...
SO AHEAD...
FINISH ME, YOU
SON-OF-A-BITCH!

AND
PUT YOU
OUT OF YOUR
MISERY?



NAH.
NOT YET,
ANYWAY.



MAYBE
LATER.
ALL
RIGHT



... WHO'S
NEXT?

FREEZE!



YOU'RE
ALL UNDER
ARREST!

RESISTANCE
WILL BE MET
WITH AUTHORIZED
USE OF DEADLY
FORCE.

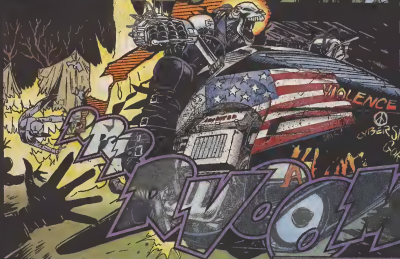
FASCIST
PUSSIES

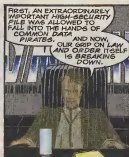
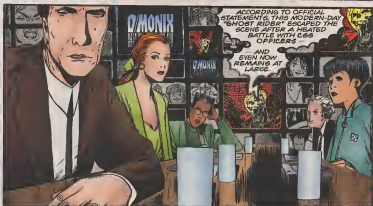
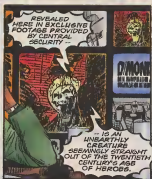
URHK

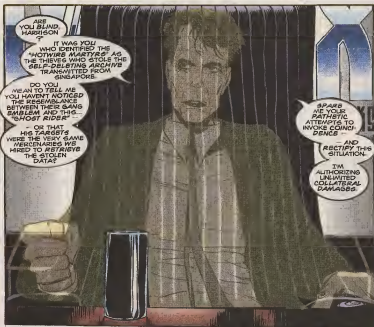
I'M NOT
IN THE MOOD
TO SCREW WITH
YOU RIGHT
NOW.

AAAAA

KYRAAASH







ARE
YOU BLIND,
HARRISON?

IT WAS YOU
WHO IDENTIFIED THE
"HOTWIRE MARTYRS" AS
THE THIEVES WHO STOLE THE
SELF-DELETING ARCHIVE
TRANSMITTED FROM
SINGAPORE.

DO YOU
MEAN TO TELL ME
YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED
THE RESEMBLANCE
BETWEEN THEIR GANG
EMBLEM AND THIS...
"GHOST RIDER"?

- OR THAT
HIS TARGETS
WERE THE VERY SAME
MERCENARIES WE
HIRED TO RETRIEVE
THE STOLEN
DATA?

SPARE
ME YOUR
PATHETIC
ATTEMPTS TO
INVOKE COINCIDENCE -

- AND
RECTIFY THIS
SITUATION.

I'M
AUTHORIZING
UNLIMITED
COLLATERAL
DAMAGES.



THAT'S
GOING TO
STRAIN
RELATIONS
WITH URMAN
AND C&S.

MIGHT I
SUGGEST -



YOU MAY
NOT.

URBAN
MANAGEMENT
AND CENTRAL
SECURITY
SYSTEMS WILL
COOPERATE -

-- OR
SUFFER THE
CONSEQUENCES.



SHOULD
WE IMPOSE
MEDIA
BLACKOUT
ON THIS?



NO.

WITH THE
PROPER SPIN
CONTROL -



THESE
ARE THE
QUESTIONS
BEING ASKED
TONIGHT -

-- WE
MAY BE
ABLE TO TURN
THIS TO OUR
ADVANTAGE.

LEVEL
11

WHAT LINK,
IF ANY, DOES HE
SHARE WITH HIS
HISTORICAL PRE-
DECESSOR?

AND
PERHAPS MOST
IMPORTANTLY

WHO --
OR WHAT --
IS THIS NEW
SHOOT
RIDER?

WHAT
DOES HE
WANT?

WHEN
AND WHERE
WILL HE STRIKE
AGAIN?

QUESTIONS
WHICH, AS OF
THIS MOMENT,
HAVE NO CLEAR
ANSWERS.

YOU
BE WANTIN'
NOTHER,
KYLIE-
GIRL?

THIS IS
WILLIS ADAMS,
REPORTING LIVE
AND DIRECT FROM
TRANSVERSE
CITY.

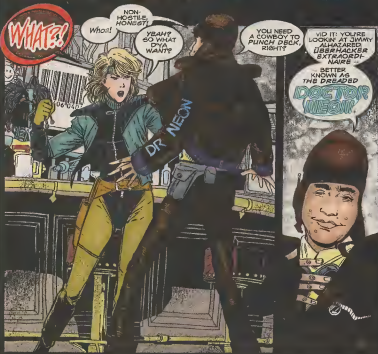
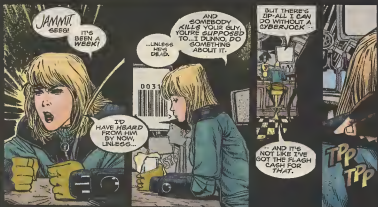
MUZ
GAGARNE

Oh, uh,
SURE,
C-GRAM,
SORRY.

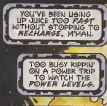
JUST
WIDDING
OUT.

YOU
GOT TO QUIT
MOONIN' OVER
EED-BOY.

FORGET DAT
MON, DARLIN' -- HE'S
LONG GONE SALVAGE.
BEST YOU BE PUTTIN'
IM OUTTA YOUR
MIND.







YOUR BODY IS A MODIFIED CYBERTEK IOI CHASSIS HOUSING A METATASKING NEUROMIMETIC NETWORK.

YOU GOT DOCUMENTATION?

A VARIETY OF USER HELP FILES HAVE BEEN INSTALLED IN MEMORY.

OH, I SEE 'EM NOW.

"USER-PROGRAMMABLE SOLID-GRAM CAMOUFLAGE SYSTEM?"

LET'S GIVE THAT A TRY.

JAGGED.

AND A STEALTH FIELD?

I CAN DO SOME SERIOUS DAMAGE WITH THAT.

REMEMBER NOW, LADDIE, THE CLOAKING DEVICE REQUIRES QUITE A BIT OF ENERGY.

YE CANNA USE IT FOR LONG PERIODS.

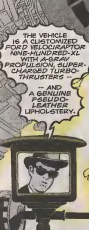
AN WATCH YOUR BATTERY STATUS -- YELL BE NEEDIN DAILY RECHARGES TO MAINTAIN FULL CAPACITY.

YEAH, YEAH.

IF YOU DINNA RESUPPLY THE SARRILM KRELLDIE STORAGE CELLS REGULARLY, YE COULD CRASH THE WHOLE KIT AN KABOODLE.

I HEARD YOU ALREADY!





THE VEHICLE
IS A CUSTOMIZED
FORD VELOCIRAPTOR
NINE-HUNDRED-XL
WITH A-GRAY
PROPULSION, SUPER-
CHARGED TURBO-
THRUSTERS --

-- AND
A GENUINE
PSEUDO-
LEATHER
UPHOLSTERY.



ACES.

JUST NEED
TO MAKE ONE
LAST ADJUSTMENT
TO THE IMAGE
PARAMETERS --



-- AND
I'M STREET-
READY.

OKAY,
SO IT'S A
STATEMENT.

SAVE
IT FOR
LATER.

THE LAST
THING YOU
WANT RIGHT
NOW --



-- IS TO GET
NOTICED.



HAIT!



CRUNCH THE
NUMBERS,
GENIUS.



YOU NEED
TO SHARE THE
HEAT AND SCORE
SOME VOLTS.



SPELLS ONE
PLACE, AND
THAT'S --



--A
DISASTER
AREA.

TOTALLY
SKELTERED!

HOW
DO YOU FIND
ANYTHING?

HEY,
I KNOW
WHERE IT
ALL IS.

SO
WHAT'S THE
BUZZ?

WE
GONNA RAID
ALCHMAX FOR
SOME CLASSIFIED
GENE-
SEQUENCES?

OR
MAYBE CRACK
DRYGO AN READ
THE OLD MAN'S
PERSONAL
DIARIES?



SCOPE
THIS.



HO-
KAY.



DO ME A
FAVOR --

SAVE
THIS
MESSAGE
TO DISK,
OKAY?



Hmmmm

ONLY
REASON TO
DO THAT'D BE IF
THERE'S SOMETHING
ENCRYPTED INTO
THE LOGS OF THE
VIDEO FEED.

SKIKIKIKIK
SKIKIKIKIK

LEEEE
WHAT WE
CAN FIND...

SO
WHO'S THE
SPUD? BOY
FRIEND?

YE. J4.

SORT
OF.

AH, I
DUNNO.

TRUTH?
I WAS THINKING
ABOUT DUMPING HIM,
BEFORE HE WENT
MISSING.

BUT
SINCE
THEN...

I
CAN'T
STOP
THINKING
ABOUT
HIM.

I
FEEL HIM
EVERYWHERE
LIKE I CAN'T
SEE HIM, BUT
I KNOW HE'S
THERE.

HAUNTING
ME.
LIKE...A
GHOST.

FUNNY...

SOUNDS
TO ME LIKE THE
DEFINITION -

...OF
INFOR-
MATION.

SKITAKCHITKLI

PLIK

UNIT FIFTEEN-OH-ONE
TO CENTRAL. SUSPECT
IS HEADING EAST ON
STRAYLIGHT—
HANG ON, HE'S
TURNING—

AW,
NO.

HE'S TAKING
DETONATION
BOULEVARD.

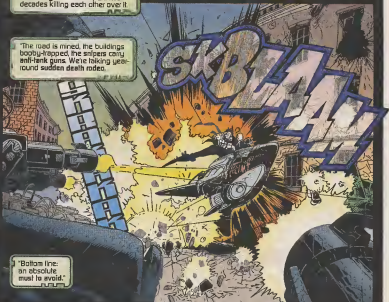
FROM ZAGAT SURVEY,
TRANSVERSE CITY
EDITOR
PAGE 247

"Why anybody'd want this
hellish ship of concrete
germane, we don't know—

DETONATION
WROOOOM!!!

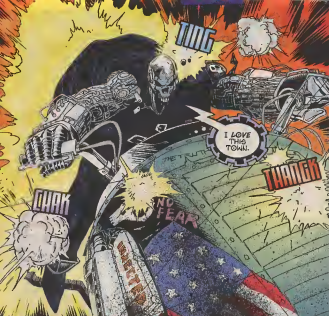


but a half-dozen different bands
of urban guerrillas've spent two
decades killing each other over it.



The road is mined, the buildings
booby-trapped, the snipers carry
anti-tank guns. We're talking year-
round sudden death rodeo.

"Bottom line:
an absolute
must to avoid."



PULL OVER.

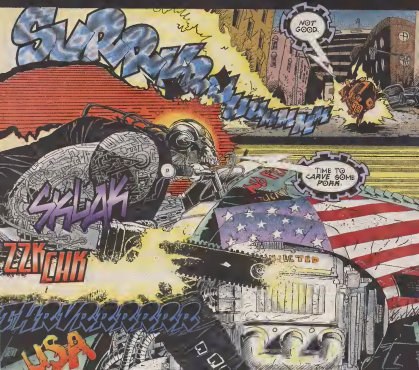
THIS IS YOUR FINAL WARNING.

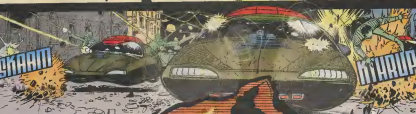
AREN'T YOU DEAD YET?!



UNIT TWELVE-SEVENTEEN TO CENTRAL --
-- WE'RE GONNA NEED BACKUP.







THREE-
NINE-ONE-ONE
TO CENTRAL
EMERGENCY!

"SERVILE AND
JUSTICE?"

WHERE'S
MINE?



SWAT!

OFFICER
UNDER
ATT-

SERVICE AND JUSTICE

WHERE
WERE
YOU --

VRRRRRR SWAK

~AAHGK

WHEN I
WAS GETTING
MURDERED?!

GHNNK

SCREW
YOUR
JUSTICE

HAKK
KHUKK

I'M
MAKING MY
OWN

TWO-
ONE-FOUR
FOUR TO
CENTRAL!

WHERE'S
THAT
BACKUP?!



BACKLIP
IS EN
ROUTE.

AH
ROSER TWO-
ONE-FOUR-FOUR
THIS IS ONE-EIGHT-
NINE AIRBORNE.



ETA
THIRTY
SECONDS.



GROUND UNITS, THIS
IS ATAC* COMMAND.
WE ARE ASSESSING
SITUATION CONTROL.

WE'RE
GOING TO
NEED TRAFFIC
ISOLATION IN
SECTOR
SEVENTEEN.

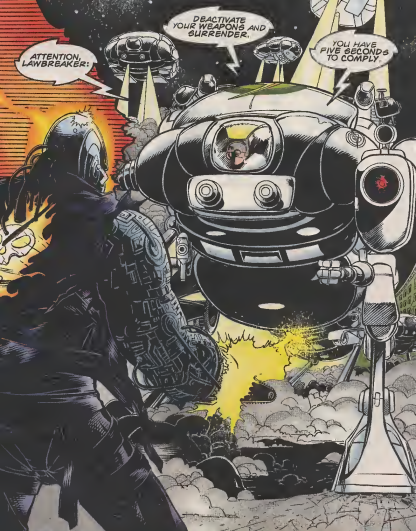
ADVANCED TACTICAL
ARMORED COMBAT.



IT MAY
GET UGLY
DOWN
THERE.



SHOCKIN'
TERRIFIZ



 **GET UP AND RUNNING** 